

**REMARKS**

**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-9 and 12-25 are currently pending in the application. New claims 13-25 have been added herein. No new matter is entered by way of these amendments. Specifically, the new claims are supported by the specification as follows:

Claim 13 is supported at, for instance, page 5.

Claims 14-16 and 21-23 are supported at, for instance, page 6.

Claims 17-20, 24 and 25 are supported at, for instance, page 7.

In addition to the arguments and amendments presented in Applicants' reply of June 11, 2007, as mentioned at page 9 of Applicants' reply of June 11, 2007, attached hereto is a verified English language translation of the priority document PCT/JP02/08998, thus removing at least Fu et al. as prior art and thereby addressing the Examiner's rejection of claims 7 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

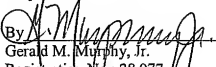
**CONCLUSION**

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Thomas J. Siepmann, Ph.D., Registration No 57,374, at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By   
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Attachments: Verified English Language Translation of PCT/JP02/08998